

Ref: FOI/GS/ID 6639

Please reply to:
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Freedom of Information Act 2000

I am writing in response to your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to the trusts guidance and protocol on monitoring patients on 35% Oxygen, and protocol regarding the NEWS Scores that are given to monitor a patient's condition, and their escalation.

You asked:

I have requested the trusts guidance and protocol on monitoring patients on 35% Oxygen, and protocol regarding the NEWS Scores that are given to monitor a patient's condition, and their escalation.

Trust response:

The trust escalation guidelines are based on Royal College of Physicians (2017) publication and endorsement of NEWS 2 as a EWS (Early Warning Score) for NHS on England. The parameters and responses are non-flexible to ensure uniformity of practice and so the same language is used in whole U.K. NHS.

It have to be stressed that NEWS 2 is a tool and not a substitute for clinical judgment as there will be cases where the score will not demand immediate escalation; e.g. some patients will have chronic stable pathology where sometimes they will be admitted and discharged from hospitals with NEWS 2 score of 5 as baseline. On the other side of the spectrum some patients might score low but they have high O2 demand which still score only 2 and those patients might be very unwell.

The frequency of observation within the Trust's Adult Vital signs guidelines are based on NICE recommendations regarding monitoring of inpatients.

Please see attached scan of the Trust NEWS 2 observations chart and escalation pathway.

35% oxygen = NEWS 2 (if that is the only parameter triggering)

Escalation would be "Inform registered nurse to assess patient. Registered nurse decides whether to increase the frequency of observations and/or if the escalation of care is required"

Please note that we have attached the paper observation chart to the reply email.

This is a "downtime" form as within the wards patients observations are routinely recorded on Nervecentre electronic system (which would contain a record of these) however, the escalation prompts are the same.

FAMILY NAME:
 Given name:
 Preferred name:
 Title: Gender:
 NHS number:
 Hospital number:
 Date of birth: ____ - ____ - ____
 Complete above in full or affix patient label



Adult Observation Chart
 Please calculate NEWS on every set of observations

	Date									
	Time									
A + B Respirations Breaths per minute	≥ 25							3		≥ 25
	21-24							2		21-24
	18-20									18-20
	15-17									15-17
	12-14									12-14
	9-11							1		9-11
≤ 8								3		≤ 8
A + B SpO ₂ Scale 1 Oxygen Saturations (%)	≥ 96									≥ 96
	94-95							1		94-95
	92-93							2		92-93
	≤ 91								3	≤ 91
SpO₂ Scale 2 Oxygen Saturations (%) Only use Scale 2 if target range is 88-92%. Only use scale 2 under the direction of a qualified clinician	≥ 97 on O ₂							3		≥ 97 on O ₂
	95-96 on O ₂							2		95-96 on O ₂
	93-94 on O ₂							1		93-94 on O ₂
	≤ 93 on air									≤ 93 on air
	88-92							1		88-92
	86-87								2	86-87
84-85								3	84-85	
≤ 83									3	≤ 83
Air or Oxygen?	A=Air									A=Air
	O ₂ % / L							2		O ₂ % / L
	Device									Device
C Blood Pressure mmHg	≥ 220							3		≥ 220
	201-219									201-219
	181-200									181-200
	161-180									161-180
	141-160									141-160
	121-140									121-140
	111-120									111-120
	101-110							1		101-110
	91-100								2	91-100
	81-90								3	81-90
	71-80								3	71-80
61-70								3	61-70	
51-60								3	51-60	
≤ 50									3	≤ 50
C Pulse Beats/min	≥ 131							3		≥ 131
	121-130							2		121-130
	111-120							2		111-120
	101-110							1		101-110
	91-100							1		91-100
	81-90									81-90
	71-80									71-80
	61-70									61-70
	51-60									51-60
41-50							1		41-50	
31-40								3	31-40	
≤ 30									3	≤ 30
D Consciousness Score for NEWS onset of confusion (no score for chronic)	Alert									Alert
	Confusion							3		Confusion
	V							3		V
	P							3		P
	U							3		U
E Temperature °C	≥ 39.1*							2		≥ 39.1*
	38.1-39.0*							1		38.1-39.0*
	37.1-38.0*									37.1-38.0*
	36.1-37.0*									36.1-37.0*
	35.1-36.0*							1		35.1-36.0*
≤ 35.0*									3	≤ 35.0*
NEWS TOTAL										TOTAL
Sedation Score (PCA, EPIDURAL) Awake = 0, Dozing Intermittently = 1, Mostly Sleeping = 2, Difficult to wake = 3										
Sedation Score										
Pain Score on movement (eg Coughing) No Pain = 0, Mild = 1-3, Moderate = 4-6, Severe = 7-10										
Pain Score										
PCA (mg)										
Epidural (mls/hr)										
Bromage Score										
Bowels opened										
Initials										